

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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25 September 1924.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION NEWS BULLETIN NO. 53.

The Bureau requests that this Bulletin be given free circulation among officers and that items of interest be published to the Enlisted Personnel. This bulletin is NOT confidential and may be destroyed at the discretion of the Commanding Officer. Constructive suggestions for improvement will be appreciated.

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SHORTAGE OF GYRO ELECTRICIANS. There is an acute shortage of gyro electricians throughout the service and even though a large percentage of the men who pass through the Electrical School are now given a course of instruction in gyro compasses upon the completion of the regular electrical course, the number of men thus trained is so small that this shortage will not be remedied for sometime. The result is that it is necessary for ships to train gyro electricians by utilizing the facilities offered by navy yards, bases, repair ships and tenders. Commanding officers are therefore urged to take advantage of every opportunity to train their own men to be gyro electricians. Only electricians of the highest type and who are specially selected because of their aptitude should be given such instruction. It is considered a waste of time to attempt to instruct any other type of man in the gyro compass, because this apparatus is too complicated for the average man to master.

INSTRUCTION IN GYRO COMPASS AT NEW YORK. Attention is invited to the fact that a large room adjacent to the office of the Inspector of Navigational Material in building #22, Navy Yard, New York, has been fitted up for giving instruction to both officers and men in all types of compasses. Arrangements can be made for such a course by merely applying to the Inspector of Navigational Material at the Navy Yard, New York, where, owing to the extra facilities offered for instruction, such as observing the compasses undergoing acceptance tests and observing the assembly and adjustment of compasses, a greater knowledge of the gyro compass can be obtained than at most other places. There is always an experienced officer available at New York for giving this instruction.

An excellent school for instruction in gyro compasses is also maintained at the Electrical School, Naval Operating Base, Hampton Roads, Va. This station has been equipped with the various types of gyro compasses.

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GYRO COMPASS OFFICE BULLETINS. The Naval Observatory issues bulletins giving general information on gyro compasses and in which various questions concerning these compasses are discussed. These bulletins are sent to every ship equipped with a gyro compass. A complete file of these bulletins should be kept in the Navigator's office where they are easily available for consultation. By following the instructions contained in certain bulletins much unnecessary paper work will be eliminated both on board ship and in the Bureau.

TOUR OF SHORE DUTY - ENLISTED MEN. Recently the commanding officer of a shore station requested the Bureau's decision in connection with determining date of commencement of a tour of shore duty for enlisted men for purposes of alternating shore and sea duty. As this subject is of general interest to the entire service, the Bureau's decisions are summarized below:

Men received at shore stations from:

Classification of duty.

(a) Apprentice training stations, never having served on other shore stations or on board ship.

Shore duty from date of enlistment.

(b) Trade schools to which transferred from apprentice training stations, never having served on other shore stations or on board ship.

Shore duty from date of enlistment.

(c) Trade schools to which transferred from sea duty.

(c) (d) (e). These cases are considered as part of a tour of shore duty when forming a part of a continuous period during which men have not performed service at sea. The time that the men should go to sea for duty is reckoned from the time last at sea, or from date of enlistment. Attendance at a trade school from a ship is not considered as a tour of shore duty, if the man returns to sea from the school.

(d) Trade schools to which transferred from general detail.

(e) Trade schools to which transferred from shore duty at other shore stations.

(f) General detail on a receiving ship.

Shore duty from date of reporting at shore station.

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Men received at shore stations from:

(g) Special duty on a receiving ship, special duty being while on general detail.

(h) Naval Hospitals, having been transferred there from apprentice training or training station, and never having been on any other ship or station.

(i) Naval Hospitals, having been transferred to such hospitals from (1) sea duty, (2) general detail on a receiving ship.

(j) Naval Hospitals, having been transferred to such hospitals from shore duty at some other shore station, or from shore duty on same station.

(k) Recruiting stations at which they have just enlisted or reenlisted.

(l) From a period of leave granted under conditions given in (k) above.

(m) Shore duty on another shore station.

Classification of duty.

Enlisted men are not considered as being on shore duty while on general detail, and such cases should be referred to the Bureau should it appear to commanding officers that the man's time on general detail was virtually shore duty.

Shore duty from date of enlistment.

Shore duty from date of reporting at shore station.

If considerable length of time has been spent in hospital during a tour of shore duty, the Bureau would consider favorably extending the date of his retention on shore to make up for time spent in hospital - date of commencement of tour of shore duty this case, however, should be considered as of date of reporting at shore station (from sea or enlistment).

Shore duty from date of reporting at shore station.

This to determine whether shore duty begins on expiration of leave or prior thereto - Tour of shore duty should be considered as date of reporting at shore station.

Should be considered as having commenced their tour of shore duty on the date first assigned to shore duty at other shore stations.

The intention of the Bureau is that when an enlisted man is assigned to shore duty that he should be allowed to complete two years on such duty as long as his services are required and are satisfactory. Because of the long list of applicants for assignment to all shore stations, it is the Bureau's desire that when a man has completed two years ashore that he be transferred to sea in order to permit of another man being assigned to shore duty. It is further desired that exchanges be made promptly in order that enlisted men may not be absent from the experience of sea duty longer than two years at a time.

ADJUSTED COMPENSATION LAW. In connection with the administration of the Adjusted Compensation Law, attention is invited to the fact that the Department is receiving a number of applications from officers who are specifically excluded from the benefits of the Act by Section 202, paragraph (b), which reads as follows:

"In computing the adjusted service credit no allowance shall be made to-

(b) Any individual holding a permanent or provisional commission or permanent or acting warrant in any branch of the military or naval forces, or (while holding such commission or warrant) serving under a temporary commission in a higher grade - in each case for the period of service under such commission or warrant or in such higher grade after the accrual of the right to pay thereunder. This subdivision shall not apply to any noncommissioned officer;"

In this connection the Department is in receipt of an opinion from the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, reading as follows:

"Consideration of sub-paragraph (b) of Section 202 discloses that any individual in the Navy who served under a permanent commission or permanent or acting warrant during said period, regardless of the rank in which he served, is not entitled to count his service as such permanent commissioned or permanent or acting warrant officer, under the provisions of this Act, even though he may have held a higher temporary rank or grade therein. In other words, sub-paragraph (b) of Section 202 of this Act excludes all individuals who held a permanent commission or permanent or acting warrant in the Navy during the entire period from April 5, 1917, to July 1, 1919, but, for such period of service during that time in which said individual did not hold a permanent commission or permanent or acting warrant, such service may be counted. It follows that the exceptions contained in sub-paragraph (b), Section 202, do not apply to non-commissioned officers and other enlisted men of the Navy, and further, that said exceptions, except as to rank above lieutenant in the Navy or captain in the Marine Corps, do not apply to officers in the Naval Reserve Force or Marine Corps Reserve."

Bureau of Navigation News Bulletin # 55, concluded.

From the foregoing it will be seen that officers who hold or held a permanent commission or warrant issued prior to 6 April 1917 and continuing in force to 1 July 1919 are excluded from the benefits of the Act, and such being the case, it is requested that no applications for adjusted service certificates be filed by such officers, thus relieving the Department of considerable unnecessary labor and expense.

It should be understood, however, that all service performed in a rank below that of lieutenant commander, either as a Reserve officer or as a temporary officer of the Navy subsequent to 6 April 1917, and prior to the date of acceptance of appointment in the permanent Navy, if such permanent appointment was accepted prior to 1 July, 1919, may be credited to officers in computing the amount of adjusted service to which they may be entitled.

In further reference to this Act, the Department desires to emphasize the fact that in case an officer or an enlisted man is in doubt as to whether or not he is entitled to any benefits under the Act, he should submit an application for consideration and decision.

Department Distribution:

I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, (a, b, c).

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RESIGNATIONS OF OFFICERS. The Bureau is often considerably embarrassed by the necessity of supplying reliefs for officers who tender their resignations to take effect within a short period.

2. Officers tendering their resignation, who require reliefs may therefore expect that no action may be taken on their requests until a relief becomes available. The Bureau will use every endeavor to assign an early relief in these cases, but it is easily possible that a period of two or three months may elapse from the time such a resignation is received in the Bureau until final action is taken.

CANDIDATES FOR NAVAL ACADEMY. Special efforts are being made this year to fill the quota of 100 enlisted entrants to the Naval Academy allowed by law. Selections are made of the most promising material men in the Fleet, and after their selection, courses of instruction will be given in classes organized at the Training Stations at Hampton Roads and San Diego to better prepare and equip them for the entrance examinations to the Naval Academy to be held next spring. In this connection it has come to notice that men have enlisted in the Navy for the sole purpose of entering the Naval Academy, and with the expectation of being discharged from the Navy and from their four-year term of enlistment in case they fail to pass the Naval Academy entrance examination. It has been considered that the purpose of Congress in enacting a provision permitting the acceptance of 100 candidates annually to the Naval Academy was made for the benefit of bona fide enlisted men. Instructions have been issued to recruiting officers giving notice that applicants for enlistment who indicate that they are enlisting in the Navy for the purpose of trying for the Naval Academy should be informed that they cannot expect to be discharged from the Service immediately subsequent to a failure to pass the Naval Academy entrance examination, and that they will be required to complete their full term of enlistment.



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FLEET WEEK in SEATTLE: CONGRESSMAN J.F.MILLER WRITES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
IN RE ENLISTED MEN'S CONDUCT AND APPEARANCE. The following are  
extracts from a letter to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet,  
written by Congressman J. F. Miller of Seattle regarding the conduct  
and appearance of enlisted men at Seattle during Fleet Week.

"Please permit me to express my appreciation of the very  
many pleasant happenings of Fleet Week in this city."

"First and foremost let me especially stress the uniform  
bearing of the enlisted men."

"Not a single breach of gentlemanly deportment on the part  
of your men has come under my observation and so far as I am  
in touch with the people of this city, this expression of mine  
voices the public sentiment."

Referring to the Ad Club Ball: - - -

"The uniform courteous bearing was commented upon many times  
during the course of the evening by those in the reviewing  
box and by the crowd in attendance."

"It is a source of satisfaction to know that in meeting and  
touching a man in the uniform of the United States Navy one is  
rubbing elbows with a gentleman."

HYDROGRAPHIC NEWS: The Executive Interim Committee of the Conference  
on Oceanography is holding meetings in the Hydrographic Office to develop  
plans for oceanographic researches. It is expected that the final report  
of the Conference will be submitted to the Secretary of the Navy early  
in October.

If a picture of one of the following distinguished Hydrographers  
is sent to the Hydrographic Office, it will be copied and returned uninjured  
to the sender.

Captain Robert H. Wyman  
Captain Henry F. Picking  
Lieut. Comdr. Harry M. Hodges  
Commander Charles C. Rogers

Steps have been taken to establish a Branch Hydrographic Office at  
Honolulu, T. H.

Many of the Officers in charge of Branch Hydrographic Offices  
are performing additional duties as inspectors and instructors of the  
Naval Reserve and Naval Militia.

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continued.)

MOTION PICTURES.

The following motion pictures have been recently purchased in duplicate by the Bureau and will be distributed:

Janice Meredith  
Broken Barriers  
Along Came Ruth  
Little Robinson Crusoe  
Red Lily  
Toss of the D'Ubervilles  
Wind of Youth  
Hit and Run  
Captain January

The Heart Buster  
Babbitt  
Never Say Die  
Alaskan, The  
Feet of Clay  
Female, The  
Her Love Story  
Empty Hands  
Open All Night  
Fast Set, The  
Dangerous Money  
Border Legion  
Story without a Name

Marion Davies  
James Kirkwood  
Viola Dana  
Jackie Coogan  
Enid Bennett  
Blanch Sweet  
Eleanor Boardman  
Hoot Gibson  
Baby Peggy  
Hobart Bosworth  
Tom Mix  
Willard Louis  
Douglas MacLean  
Thomas Meighan  
Rod La Rocque  
Betty Compson  
Gloria Swanson  
Jack Holt  
Viola Dana  
Betty Compson  
Bebe Daniels  
Mereno-Chadwick  
Ayres-Mereno

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